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P 230647Z MAY 07
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3824
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
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RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RUALSFJ/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 1200
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 4763
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 7117
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RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4348
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

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CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - RUSSIA - TOKYO

11. LEAD STORIES: Most Wednesday morning papers front-paged the OIE classification of the US as a "controlled risk country" for BSE.

12. "Russia Becoming More Distant from US and EU" The business-oriented Nihon Keizai editorialized (5/23): "Russia's relations with the US and EU continue to cool. At their summit last week, Russian and EU leaders exchanged recriminations over freedom of assembly and other issues, and they were unable to adopt any accord. Although Secretary of State Rice visited Russia earlier last week, she was unable to bridge the gap with Russia over the planned US deployment of a missile defense system in Eastern Europe. Russian and Western leaders have emphasized that they do not intend to start a new Cold War. It is nonetheless clear that we have at present a 'cold peace.'... Russia, backed by its thriving oil and natural gas industries, has been growing economically and regaining its political confidence, and these developments help explain its strong stance toward other countries. Although President Putin is scheduled to step down next spring, it is unlikely that there will be any fundamental changes to Russia's 'Putin-style' policy."

SCHIEFFER